

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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BELLEVILLE MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Edward E. McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 3, 2006, **CHRISTOPHER A. MUSSO**, age 31, of Belleville, Illinois, was sentenced in United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **MUSSO** was sentenced to 37 months imprisonment, fined \$550, and must serve 3 years of supervised release after completing his prison sentence.

MUSSO pled guilty on June 13, 2005 to eleven counts of possessing child pornography.

The evidence established that **MUSSO** has obtained child pornography via the Internet, from several Internet sites which featured child pornographic images. Police recovered these images from **MUSSO's** computer, which was seized during the execution of a search warrant at **MUSSO's** residence.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Garrison. The investigation which led to **MUSSO's** conviction was conducted by special agents of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in St. Louis, Missouri.

The United States Attorney's Office, in conjunction with federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities, is actively investigating and prosecuting individuals who produce, distribute, or possess child pornography, or are involved in the exploitation of children. Anyone with information concerning the use of the Internet for the purposes of trafficking in child pornography or for child exploitation is encouraged to contact their local police department or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.